Bihar during the last three years are given below:—

Year	Area ('000 hr.)	Production ('000 tonnes)
1981-82	48.00	49.60
1982-83	50.70	57.00
1983-84	56 90	58.30

(c) Yes Sir, to bring increase in production and productivity of rice in the State, a special rice production programme as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented during the Seventh Five Year Plan which, inter-alia, aims at expanding the area under Summer rice.

Sugar prices in June, 1985

482: SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA.
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state

(a) whether the retail price of sugar has risen in June 1985 to Rs. 7.20 per kilogram;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to bring the price in open market to the level of the prevailing price in early 1985?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The retail prices of sugar in important markets of Delhi, Kanpur, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras ranged from Rs. 6.20 to Rs. 7.20 per kg. in June, 1985 as against the price range of Rs. 5.50 to Rs. 6.50 per kg. during May 1985.

(c) The decline in sugar production to 59.16 lakh tonnes in 1983-84 season and to about 61 lakh tonnes in 1984-85 season from the record production of about 84 and 82 lakh tonnes in 1981-82 and 1982-83 seasons and significant increase in internal consumption from 1981-82 season onwards has resulted in limited availability of indigenous sugar. It has, therefore, been decided to import 10 lakh tonnnes of sugar to augment the sugar supply and keep the prices at reasonable level in the market. The imported sugar is being allocated to the State Governments for being distributed in open market at below Rs. 6/- per kg. and is also being sold by auction/ tender by the Food Corporation of India. State Governments have been advised to ensure that the wholesale licensed dealers comply with the statutory provisions relating to stock holding limits, 10-day turn over period etc. and suitable action has also been taken for ensuring that the sugar factories under-take sales and despatches of free sale sugar in accordance with the statutory requirement. As a result of these measures as also adequate releases of free sale and levey sugar for internal consumption, the prices of sugar are expected to be maintained at reasonable levels.

Export of Wheat and ATTA

483. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to export wheat and atta;

(b) if so, the countries to which these food articles are proposed to be exported and the likely earnings in foreign exchange;

(c) whether the proposal is likely to increase the cost of these articles in the country; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for exporting these commodities?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) The Government have decided to allow export of limited quantities of Wheat, Maida, Suji and Wholemeal atta subject to the prescribed minimum export prices.

(b) It is not possible to indicate the countries to which these exports will be made and the likely foreign exchange earnings. However, Food Corporation of India has already entered into a contract for supply of 5 lakh tonnes of wheat to U.S.S.R.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. In view of comfortable stock position of wheat, the cost of these articles in the country is not likely to be affected.

Setting up a Committee on Employment of Women

484. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state·

(a) whether Government are aware that a Committee on Employment of Women was set up; and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) and (b) A Working Group on Employment of Women was set up by the Planning Commission in September, 1978. The findings of the Working Group have been published by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Government of India. The recommendations of the Group are given in the attached Statement (*See below*)

Statement

In brief the Group makes the following recommendations:—

I. *Industrial Training Institutes, Polytechnics and apprenticeship training scheme*:—

(1) Reserve a certain number of seats for women in training institutes and apprenticeship trades.

(2) Encourages women to join these institutes/trades by giving incentives and facilities like hostels, stipends etc

(3) Hold special crash classes in ITIs & Polytechnics for women whose qualifications may fall slightly short of basic required qualifications, in order to enable them to join the regular training courses.

(4) Encourage employers/institutes to train a large number of women, by awarding prizes, special citations to employers/institutes who produce the best results|train women in excess of the reserved number.

II. *Employers*:—

(1) Reserve a certain percentage of seats for women in in-service training given by employers.

(2) Give special recognition in the shape of national awards, etc. to employers who

—give in-service training to a large number of women.

—appreciably increase the employment of women.

—impart literacy of non-formal education, etc.

(3) Encourage employers to take in more women by giving a rebate to industries which employ a large number of women. This should be linked to the proposal of the Ministry of Industry to give rebates to labour intensive industries.